

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

31 OCTOBER 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Morocco-
Algeria

a. King Hassan and President Ben Bella have signed an agreement calling for a cease-fire and a withdrawal of their forces to the lines each held before the fighting started.

b. According to the plan, the cease-fire will become effective Saturday. A team of Moroccan, Algerian, Malian and Ethiopian officers will fix the demarcation lines, with the Malians and Ethiopians remaining as observers in the disputed areas.

c. The Organization of African Unity will be asked to convene a foreign ministers' meeting to establish a commission to discuss the question of permanent frontiers.

d. The life expectancy of this agreement is uncertain because the basic hostility and suspicion between the two regimes remain. The press reports both sides are already squabbling over their different interpretations of the agreement.

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2. USSR Gold Sales

a. Soviet gold continues to flow into Western coffers at a record rate. The press yesterday reported ten tons unloaded at Paris and five and a half tons en route London.

b. The gold sales this year have now reached about \$400 million with more to follow. About \$250 million has been sold since early September, largely to provide funds for wheat purchases.

c. Soviet gold sales in recent years have averaged just over \$200 million. These sales have been used in the past to support part of the trade deficit caused by Soviet purchases in hard currency areas. (Soviet receipt of credits, about 300 million per year in 1962 and 1963, met the rest of the deficit.)

d. The USSR's gold reserve is now estimated at just under \$2 billion.

STATISTICS ON THE WAR IN VIETNAM

Month	VIET CONG					GOVERNMENT		
	Total Incidents	Armed Attacks	Total Casualties	Defectors	Weapons Lost	Total Casualties	Missing & Captured	Weapons Lost
<u>1962</u>								
May	1768	503	2623	120*	412	993	83	518
Jun	1489	407	2520	120*	382	1017	88	402
Jul	1595	448	2510	120*	353	1282	212	440*
Aug	1642	378	3297	120*	378	1068	63	440*
Sep	1375	391	3029	120*	462	1124	59	440*
Oct	1357	419	2626	99	446	1048	64	440*
Nov	1311	421	2911	158	414	1336	92	359
Dec	1346	384	2755	225	484	990	78	450*
<u>1963</u>								
Jan	927	252	2451	168	683	1463	102	457
Feb	788	195	1677	245	399	1117	82	253
Mar	1282	344	2034	394	367	1327	66	467
Apr	1331	383	2304	371	468	1480	96	797
May	1208	357	2885	414	564	1418	94	463
Jun	1311	410	2609	426	394	1251	90	580
Jul	1368	407	2677	308	374	2310	457	934
Aug	1349	362	2404	204	428	1567	358	627
Sep	1763	503	2563	114	539	2401	574	878

* Indicates average; actual figures not available for each month.

3. Laos-USSR

a. Souvanna Phouma arrived in Moscow yesterday and got the VIP treatment by Khrushchev and other Soviet leaders.

b. The Laotian Prime Minister has said he will press Khrushchev to support a stronger International Control Commission (ICC) in Laos. The ICC's effectiveness has long been hampered by the obstructionism of the Polish delegate.

c. Even Souvanna does not think he will have much success.

4. Hungary

a. The New York Times went on sale in Hungary last Thursday for the first time since 1948; the Herald Tribune followed suit two days later.

b. The sales volume will not warm the cockles of a circulation manager's heart (five copies daily in each of six leading hotels) but the development is nonetheless significant. It adds one more element to the trend toward loosening restrictions in satellite regimes.

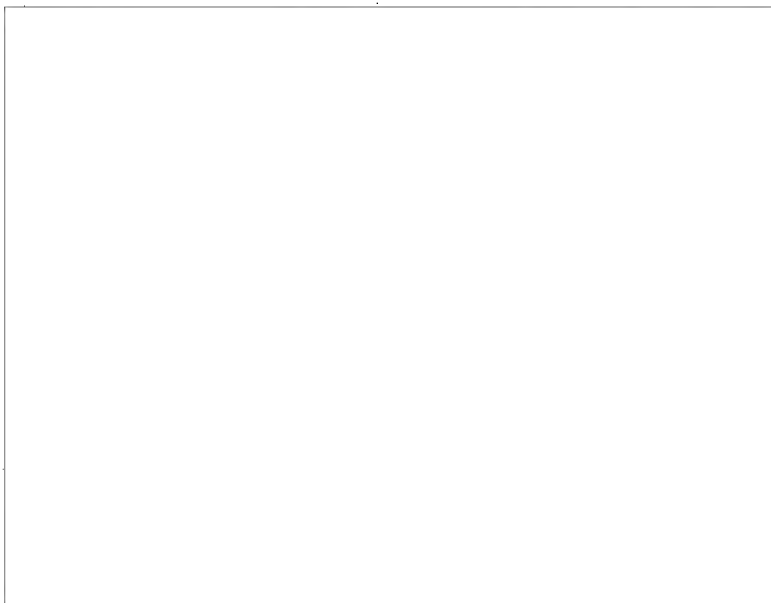
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c. An equal number of papers from five other Western European countries are being sold under a similar plan.

d. The negotiations for the sale of the New York papers probably started as a result of Kadar's efforts several months ago to encourage Western news services to station permanent correspondents in Budapest. So far we have no word that The Times or The Tribune intends to do so.

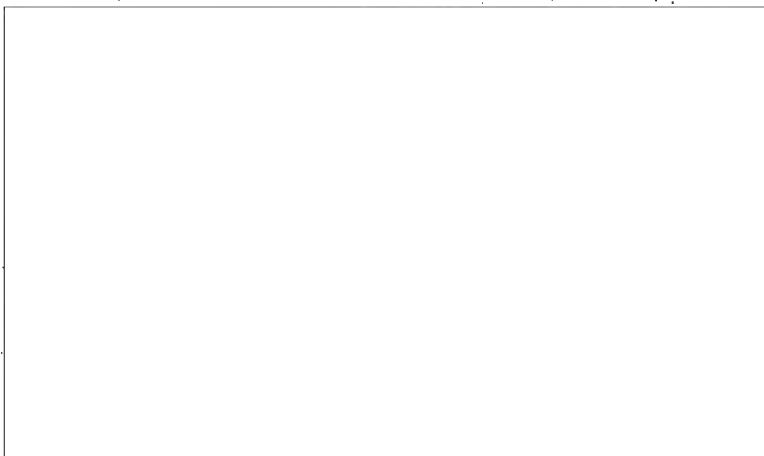
5. Poland

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- B. France-USSR Guy Mollet and other French Socialist Party leaders met with Khrushchev yesterday and discussed relations between Socialists and Communists. Mollet is quoted by the press as saying the meeting had been friendly, frank and cordial. Another session with Khrushchev and the Party Presidium is scheduled for Saturday indicating that the Soviet leaders are making a special effort to charm their guests.